

House of Representatives, April 7, 1998. The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR, 99th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE GRANTING OF VISITATION TO CERTAIN PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (NEW) Notwithstanding any provisions of
2 chapter 815j of the general statutes, no court
3 shall make an order granting the right of
4 visitation to a parent who has been convicted of
5 murder under section 53a-54a of the general
6 statutes, or in any other jurisdiction, of any
7 crime the essential elements of which are
8 substantially similar to such crime, of the other
9 parent of the child who is the subject of the
10 visitation order, unless such child is of
11 sufficient age to signify his wishes and he
12 assents to such order. Until any such visitation
13 order is granted, no person shall visit, with the
14 child present, such parent who has been convicted
15 of murder without the consent of the child's
16 guardian or legal custodian.

17 JUD COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 37 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER HB 5729

STATE IMPACT	None
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	None
STATE AGENCY(S)	Judicial Department

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

HB 5729

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE GRANTING OF VISITATION TO CERTAIN PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDER

SUMMARY: This bill prohibits courts from granting a visitation order requiring a child to visit a parent who has been convicted of murdering the other parent. If the child is old enough to express his wishes and wants to visit, the court can allow it. Until the court grants such a visitation order, no one can visit the convicted parent accompanied by the child without the child's guardian or legal custodian's consent.

The bill's provisions apply to anyone convicted under Connecticut's murder statute or a law in any other jurisdiction with similar elements to the crime. But it does not appear to apply to someone convicted of a capital felony (death penalty case), felony-murder, or arson-murder.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 37 Nay 0